(c) whether Government propose to reduce the issue prices for BPL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Obsolescent Defence Equipment

*452. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defence equipment which have been declared as obsolescent by the DGQA/ANSP during the last three years; and

(b) the status and value of holding of the stocks of the spares associated with the equipment declared obsolescent during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Equipment is declared obsolescent in accordance with a set procedure. In general, the equipment will be classified obsolescent in accordance with a laid down 'discard policy* for that particular equipment. In the last three years, 72 defence equipments have been declared obsolescent.

(b) The data sought is not commensurate with the result intended to be achieved.

Disposal of sugar stocks

*453. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of heavy sugar stock approximately worth Rs. 1800 crores lying in the Karnataka godowns;

(b) if so, whether Government of Karnataka has requested for assistance in disposal of sugar stocks; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to facilitate clearance of the sugar stocks?